

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

IN THE TITLE:

Please cancel the title and insert the following new title of the invention in lieu thereof:

-- ENDLESS FLEXIBLE TRACK WITH REINFORCING LAYERS FOR ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES --.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 6, page 1, as follow:

The invention relates to an endless flexible belt [[caterpillar]] track intended in particular for all-terrain vehicles.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 11, page 1, as follow:

It relates more particularly to an endless flexible belt [[caterpillar]] track formed from an elastomer and comprising a steel cable spirally wound and embedded in the thickness of the belt to form more or less parallel longitudinal turns, as well as at least one layer of wires embedded in the thickness of the belt toward the inside and/or outside relative to the turns of the cable.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 25, page 1,
as follow:

[[Caterpillar]] Endless flexible belt tracks of this type
are already known and are being used increasingly to replace
classical [[caterpillar]] flexible belt tracks consisting of
metal links joined together. These flexible tracks are used
in numerous all-terrain vehicles such as agricultural machines
and public works vehicles. A track of this type is known in
particular from the patent FR-A-2 711 959 (93 13211), filed in
the name of the applicant.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 21, page 2,
as follow:

In fact, these layers must be able to resist the
extremely high stresses to which the track is subjected
because of its winding tension and the obstacles it
encounters. It should be remembered that the tension of the
track is generally between 3 and 12 tons [[tonnes]], and that
the track is subject to major stresses in different
directions, particularly when on a slope or bank or when it
passes over obstacles of varying sharpness that are likely to
damage it.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 8, page 3,

as follow:

For this purpose, the invention proposes an endless flexible belt track of the above type that comprises outer layers formed successively from the turns of the cable toward the outside, by:

- a first oblique layer formed from wires that in turn form a first acute angle to a perpendicular to the turns of the cable;
- a ~~transversal~~ transverse layer formed from wires that in turn form a right angle to the turns of the cable; and
- a second oblique layer formed from wires that in turn form a second acute angle to a perpendicular to the turns of the cable, the second acute angle extending in the opposite direction to the first acute angle.

The outer layers are therefore formed essentially by a ~~transversal~~ transverse layer sandwiched between two oblique layers whose respective angles extend in opposite directions, one of the angles capable of being qualified as positive and the other negative.

This combination of three layers produces extremely ~~favourable~~ favorable results. The ~~transversal~~ transverse layer contributes to the ~~transversal~~ transverse stiffness of the belt, which enables it to remain flat whilst facilitating its winding. This results in a very low power absorption during winding or rolling of the belt.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 12, page 4, as follow:

The track according to the invention may also incorporate an additional ~~[[transversal]]~~ transverse layer formed from wires forming a right angle to the turns of the cable and arranged after the second oblique layer toward the outside. The flexible belt therefore comprises four outer layers, the additional ~~[[transversal]]~~ transverse layer contributing to increasing the ~~[[transversal]]~~ transverse stiffness of the belt.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 24, page 4, as follow:

In some cases, however, it may be advantageous for the track also to incorporate an inner ~~[[transversal]]~~ transverse layer formed from wires that in turn form a right angle to the turns of the cable and arranged after the turns of the cable toward the inside.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 8, page 6, as follow:

Endless belt 12 has on the outside a rolling surface 16 that is normally provided with studs (not shown in Figure 1)

and on the inside a row of ~~[[pins]]~~ lugs 18, located in the longitudinal direction of the belt and are in principle separated equidistantly by a pitch PP.

Driving wheel 14 is formed from two symmetrical rims 20 interconnected, at regular intervals, by driving ~~[[dogs]]~~ cogs 22. These ~~[[dogs]]~~ cogs are arranged in parallel on the periphery of the wheel and parallel with the generating lines of the latter.

As can also be seen in Figure 1, ~~[[pins]]~~ lugs 18 have essentially the shape of a pyramid and each exhibit two oblique faces 24 terminating in an upper face 26 and two lateral faces 28.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 4, page 7, as follow:

Figure 2A shows endless flexible belt 12 with its studs 32 on the outside and its ~~[[pins]]~~ lugs 18 on the inside. In the thickness of the belt is embedded reinforcing cable 30, which is spirally wound to form longitudinal turns 34 that are essentially parallel to each other. As can be seen in Figures 2A and 2B, three outer layers are also embedded in the thickness of the belt, these layers being formed successively from turns 34 of the cable, toward the outside, by:

- a first oblique layer 36 formed from parallel wires that in turn form an acute angle A to a perpendicular to the

turns of the cable;

- a [[transversal]] transverse layer 38 formed from wires that in turn form a right angle to the turns of the cable; and
- a second oblique layer 40 formed from wires that in turn form a second acute angle B to a perpendicular to the turns of the cable, the second acute angle B extending in the opposite direction to the first acute angle A.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17, page 8, as follow:

The combination of [[transversal]] transverse layer 38, sandwiched between oblique layers 36 and 40, contributes to improving the performances of the endless belt by imparting to it particularly advantageous properties. [[Transversal]] Transverse weft 38 confers a [[transversal]] transverse stiffness to the belt, enabling it to remain flat and facilitating its winding.

Please amend the paragraphs beginning at line 32, page 8, as follow:

The embodiment shown in Figures 3A and 3B is similar to that shown in Figures 2A and 2B, except that the belt also incorporates an additional [[transversal]] transverse layer 42 formed from wires that in turn form a right angle to the turns

of the cable and arranged after the second oblique layer toward the outside. The presence of this additional layer contributes to increasing the transverse stiffness or rigidity of the belt, which is necessary for a rubber track to operate correctly.

The embodiment shown in Figures 4A and 4B is similar to those shown in Figures 2A and 2B, except that the belt also incorporates an inner transverse layer 44 formed by wires forming a right angle to the turns of the cable and arranged after the turns of the cable toward the inside.

The embodiment shown in Figures 5A and 5B is very similar to those shown in Figures 3A and 3B, except that it also comprises an inner transverse layer 44, similar to that shown in Figures 4A and 4B.